

THE AMERICAN JOCKEY CLUB

First Day of the Spring Meeting at Jerome Park.

A FETE D'ETE.

Brilliant and Fashionable Attendance and Glorious Sport.

Who Were There and What They Were.

FOUR CAPITAL RACES.

Chillicothe the Winner of the Fordham Stakes, Harry Bassett the Belmont Stakes, Hamburg the Two Mile Dash, and Oysterman, Jr., the Steeple Chase.

A cloudless sky, without a speck to dim its azure depths; clear, keen, bracing air, with a spice of the north to rattle it; an endless, turbulent stream of equinoxes, to which all "horsemanship" seemed to be yoked; all the belles of a great city, arrayed in the modeste best style; a bluff overhanging a race course and crowded with the wealth and fashion of the metropolis; another bluff overlooking the precincts of the course, and still more densely peopled with the hard-handed men of Manhattan; every part of the intervening ground dotted with carriages and excited groups of sportsmen; the waving of a flag, and a rash of contesting horses—such was the scene at Jerome Park yesterday, or rather, a few of its myriad features. Seldom, if ever before, did a meeting of the American Jockey Club commence under such favorable auspices. The clerk of the weather, for once, forgot his spite, and a lovelier day could not be wished for. The Jerome Park races have now taken such a fast hold of the metropolitan public that they are looked forward to anxiously every summer and fall as the great fashionable and enjoyable events of the year. The arrangements are of the most extensive and complete character, and satisfactory to all. The last season was present yesterday, and its name was legion; but not one or two of a solitary case of disturbance.

Every year shows progress and keen take in the management of these races, so that now everything is as smooth and pleasant as if there was but a family party present. The American Jockey Club can now claim the first position among the sporting organizations of the world for order, regularity, enjoyment and promoting a widespread desire for the sports of the turf. Even the world-renowned Derby, the Oaks, the St. Leger, or the Goodwood in England, or the celebrated meetings that took place when France was under imperial rule, cannot be placed above the brilliant and interesting scene that took place yesterday at Jerome Park. The location is unsurpassed, and the drive from the city through the Park, along the Bloomingdale road, across Macomb's Dam and on Central avenue is the finest probably in the world.

The Park looked its prettiest yesterday, as if it was conscious of being placed on special inspection and was resolved to do its best. The trees nodded a welcome as the swift equipages passed along, and the flowers seemed to have put on extra charms, like a young maid in her teens on the evening that the young man is expected. The lake shone brighter than ever in the rays of the noonday sun, and hundreds of children sported on the velvety lawns. The large Imperial procession ever known would not equal the line of vehicles of all kinds that crossed Macomb's Dam in decorous order, with a forced solemnity. Beneath them, in the Harlem river, were dozens of small boats, darning hither and thither, as if in pure enjoyment of the scene, and even on the sun-saturated faces of the blue-coated guardians of the bridge an occasional smile darted at intervals. And though the entire drive was an unbroken stream of carriages, tributaries flowed into it from every locality on the way.

Long before the races commenced the grand stand was thickly dotted with early arrivals and the field behind it was a seemingly inextricable tangle of carriages. In a few minutes the throng, and the other members of the family, were in the honor to the occasion. The sight was a glorious one, particularly to those who take a pride in the great metropolis, as it was a proud New York, with being the commercial city par excellence of America, is also the centre of fashion, intelligence and refinement. It was a glorious one, in the broader sense of the word, as it showed to the visitors from kindly realms that a republican city can put on gorgeous attire as well as if it were a crowned monarch and his court to order it.

The centre of this revolving circle of fashion, beauty and brilliancy is

THE CLUB HOUSE.

A walk around the veranda yesterday would have made the fashion-hunter envious and caused Cytherea to abdicate her throne. There they sat—the belles of Manhattan—princesses, chatted, laughed, staked gloves, neckties, fans, every feminine fancy, on the race, chilled their pretty lips with ice cream and champagne, and warmed them again by the exercise implied in the words "Oh, I've so much to tell you!" listened to the strains of the Fort Hamilton band, or the more welcome music of the warning bell for the race; smiled sweetly on their attendant cavaliers and many others besides; indulged in quiet and shy glances at each other's toilets, and inquired at times anxiously whether their favorite horse's rider had a maroon jacket or was in blue.

This question of the colors of the riders seems always to be a puzzle to the fair sex. They can tell you of a red horse, and a black and white horse, but it beats them to discover on a racecourse the difference between drab and drab with green sash and silver gray and white stripes.

WHAT THEY WORE.

Seated in a corner of the piazza was a stately blonde, of truly regal appearance. Her dress was of two shades of brown, the underskirt being of the darker of the two, trimmed with five narrow flounces, edged with white lace, and an elegant fringe of a light shade of brown. The outside garment was a loose jacket, somewhat of the Watteau shape. A round hat, trimmed with two shades of brown to correspond with the dress, sat on her golden hair. Near her stood a tall, slight girl in a dress of dark blue and black cashmere, with a very pretty combination, the underskirt being of a light shade of mauve, trimmed with narrow flounces, edged with white lace, and the outside garment being of elegant black cashmere, with a very long overskirt, looped up on both sides and trimmed with plating of silk-edged black lace. A split straw round hat completed this remarkable toilet.

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door wildly. I strove to hold him in as well as I could, but it was no use, and my brand-new silk hat was blown to pieces.

A little boy came up to me and demanded fifty cents before he gave it to me. I did not want to dismount again and so I gave it to him, holding the hat in my hand. He took it and ran off with the best pocket for the fifty cents. Two or three other boys had collected and they gave me three cents for the hat. I was not a little vexed at the loss of "Looker here, Jim, at the Prince of Wales on horseback. What he does!"

I had engaged to meet Julia and her mother at the races, and I knew I was late. There wasn't any barouches in the stables, they had all been hired for the day, so at last I would try to find a stand at the City Hall Park, where I knew there were always some turnouts standing.

Said I, "How much will you charge to take me to the races?" "Twenty dollars," he said. "Twenty dollars?" "Yes, twenty dollars," he said. "How much will I take you?" "I'll take twenty dollars, but you don't want me to carry that wicked looking horse in that ugly coat?"

I explained to him that I wanted to take two ladies in the barouches and that I would ride by the lake. He said that was all right, but he would not take me to the races for twenty dollars. He said that he would take me to the races for twenty dollars, but he would not take me to the races for twenty dollars.

At the ferry I met Julia and her mother. She was a rather tall, slender girl, with a fine figure, and she was dressed in a very elegant manner. She was wearing a blue dress, and she was wearing a blue dress. She was wearing a blue dress, and she was wearing a blue dress.

The driver of the barouches now assumed confidential relations with me, and advised that I should take the barouches to the races. He said that he would take me to the races for twenty dollars, but he would not take me to the races for twenty dollars.

"Yes, Billy, do anything the man says," he said. "I'll do anything the man says," he said. "I'll do anything the man says," he said. "I'll do anything the man says," he said.

All went smoothly enough now as we passed through the lanes of green trees in the Central Park, and at last we reached the races. The barouches were waiting for us, and we got in. The barouches were waiting for us, and we got in. The barouches were waiting for us, and we got in.

Long lines of teams, carriages, sulkeys, broken down, and a great many other things, were waiting for us. The barouches were waiting for us, and we got in. The barouches were waiting for us, and we got in. The barouches were waiting for us, and we got in.

Five horses were entered, and they all looked beautiful enough I suppose to those who liked horses. The barouches were waiting for us, and we got in. The barouches were waiting for us, and we got in. The barouches were waiting for us, and we got in.

"I was too late to get on a thing which I knew I should have been on," he said. "I was too late to get on a thing which I knew I should have been on," he said. "I was too late to get on a thing which I knew I should have been on," he said.

"That account Fritz cried out to me as the ball rang for saddle—

"I had been twenty-five that Oysterman gets the handle. Who means business?"

"I knew he was looking at me under his scowling eyes," he said. "I knew he was looking at me under his scowling eyes," he said. "I knew he was looking at me under his scowling eyes," he said.

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was too far for any of the others, and they were beaten of long before the finish.

The second race, the great feature of the day, had eleven starters of the original seventy-six entries, and a finer field of three-year-olds has been seldom seen. The horses that started were Colonel D. McDaniel's chestnut colt Harry Bassett, by Lexington, dam Chestnut Bird; Mr. Swigert's chestnut colt Stockwood, by Asteroid, dam Alabama; Mr. Belmont's chestnut colt By the Sea, by Thormanby, dam Bernice; Belmont's gray filly Nellie James, by General Vandyke, dam General Vandyke; Mr. Hall's bay colt John Merriman, by Mr. A. Little's gray filly Mary Clark; Richard's bay colt Tubman, by War Bances, dam Lass of Sidney; Mr. Swigert's chestnut colt Wanderer, by Lexington, dam General Vandyke; Mr. Swigert's bay colt Eugene, dam Cordeira Reed; M. H. Sanford's bay colt Wanderer, by Lexington, dam General Vandyke; and G. P. Wetmore's bay colt, by Lexington, dam General Vandyke.

The horses had a capital start, with the exception of Wanderer, who stood at the post until the others were well on their way. Mr. Swigert's chestnut colt Wanderer, by Lexington, dam General Vandyke, was the first to start. He was followed by Colonel D. McDaniel's chestnut colt Harry Bassett, by Lexington, dam Chestnut Bird; Mr. Swigert's chestnut colt Stockwood, by Asteroid, dam Alabama; Mr. Belmont's chestnut colt By the Sea, by Thormanby, dam Bernice; Belmont's gray filly Nellie James, by General Vandyke, dam General Vandyke; Mr. Hall's bay colt John Merriman, by Mr. A. Little's gray filly Mary Clark; Richard's bay colt Tubman, by War Bances, dam Lass of Sidney; Mr. Swigert's chestnut colt Wanderer, by Lexington, dam General Vandyke; Mr. Swigert's bay colt Eugene, dam Cordeira Reed; M. H. Sanford's bay colt Wanderer, by Lexington, dam General Vandyke; and G. P. Wetmore's bay colt, by Lexington, dam General Vandyke.

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Thomas Buford entered b. m. by Lexington, dam by General Vandyke, four years old, taken 10 to 8.

T. W. Howell entered b. m. Midway, by Eclipse, four years old, taken 10 to 8.

A. Keene Richards entered b. m. Midway, by Eclipse, four years old, taken 10 to 8.

Uncle Vic, dam Magnolia, four years old, taken 10 to 8.

Time, 3:40.

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